












The Story of Hanukkah


1. In a Jewish temple there is a special lamp.  It is called the "Eternal Light." The lamp is always filled with oil  so the light  will not go out.

2. Two thousand years ago, Jewish people did not have their own king. Antiochus,  the king of Syria, was their ruler. Antiochus did not like the Jewish religion.

3. Antiochus used the Jewish temple  for his own religion. He made statues  of Greek gods in the Jewish temple. He made Jews bow down to the Greek statues  . If they would not bow down  , he killed them.

4. One Jewish man had five brave sons.  They were the Maccabees. They would not bow down to the statues of the Greek gods.

5. The Maccabees became the leaders of the Jewish army. Jews fought  against Antiochus and his armies. They got the Temple back. But the Eternal Light was out. 

6. The Jews lit the Eternal Light. They had only enough oil for one day. They had to get more oil. It took eight days to get more oil. But a miracle happened. The light did not go out after one day. It burned for eight days until the new oil was ready .

7. Since that day, Jews have celebrated the "Miracle of the Lights," or Hanukkah, every year.

